



File Code: 2130
Date: July 31, 2017

Sheryl Bilbrey, Director
Office of Environmental Protection Agency
United States Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Sixth Avenue, Suite 900
Seattle, Washington 98101

7010 3090 0000 9040 3408

Dear Ms. Bilbrey,

I am writing you because your office has been involved in the Wrangell Junkyard Repository Site project environmental assessment and design.

I received a proposal through the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation last week to transport a substantial quantity of lead contaminated material from the existing Wrangell Junkyard Site (EPA number AKR000206474) over a National Forest road to a proposed new repository site on the State Forest in the Pats Creek watershed. The use of NFS Road 6259 will require Forest Service authorizations which will address both public safety and the road investment. The authorizations will also trigger a NEPA analysis.

The public is aware of the hazardous effects of lead and other heavy metals in the environment and their concerns have been heightened by recent high profile events in Flint Michigan and in the Animas River which have heightened those concerns.

The public and the Forest Service were not provided with the opportunity to be involved in the project. I share the public's concerns over the effects of the storage of this lead contaminated material on the adjacent National Forest lands and resources and the people who use them. There are anadromous fish streams, including Pats Creek, below the repository site. Pats Creek flows into Pats Lake and both support subsistence and sport fisheries. Pats Lake is a popular place for Wrangell families to swim, boat, and fish and is the site for the annual Family Fishing Day event.

I am trying to determine the extent of the federal nexus with this project. Has EPA conducted any NEPA analysis from which I can tier? Was federal funding used? There does not seem to be any evaluation of aquatic resources, plants, wildlife, or public health in the reports I have seen. Has the EPA conducted any analysis on these effects from the lead repository?



I would appreciate it if you would provide me with a contact from EPA who can work with me on this matter. I can be reached at 907-874-2323 or rdalrymple@fs.fed.us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Dalrymple". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Robert" and last name "Dalrymple" clearly distinguishable.

ROBERT J DALRYMPLE
District Ranger